

# ORGANIZATION & FUNCTION

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Chief, KUCIUB

4 February 1955

Chief, [ ]

Administrative

Concurrent Travel

REF : ADM 55-093

1. The reference points up a situation which, I believe, can very well develop into a serious financial and morale problem for personnel bringing families with them. Here are a few things which I believe you should know and pass on to prospective concurrent travellers:

a. Initial lodging will be on the [ ] economy, and almost certainly it will cost more than whatever allowances are provided. More than likely, the accommodations will be substandard by U.S. comparison, i.e., hotel rooms frequently do not have private baths and pensions can be expected to be even more primitive. Cooking facilities will be meager or non-existent.

b. It also should be made perfectly clear that any arrangements made in behalf of the traveller are of a completely non-official nature, and actually should be considered as personal favors. [ ] has already expressed concern at being put in the position of obligating perfect strangers for accommodations which may not be satisfactory to them. It also entails considerable effort on his and other's part. It would be hard enough in the States; over here it can result in some most unfortunate first impressions. Already we have a case where a man and wife (no children - bear in mind) are unhappy with their quarters and the price (\$5.00 per day, double room). The man is looking, but hasn't found anything suitable for the money he feels he can afford. It is additionally unfortunate that they left home unaware that they weren't going immediately into Government quarters.

c. Every effort is made to get people into temporary government quarters, but there is no certainty when that will be. Furthermore, temporary billets are frequently less than satisfactory - extra cots in rooms, four floor walkups, etc.

d. Permanent housing is taking a minimum of ninety days and there is no guarantee it won't be longer.

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c. The difficulty in obtaining both [ ] lodgings and temporary quarters appears to increase geometrically with the number of dependents involved. Age is also important; the very young and very old adding their peculiar problems to the general grimness of this situation.

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2. Please do not regard the above as an attempt to get out from under. Where we have ample notification and insofar as possible some kind of approximation of the type and price of tourist quarters the travellers desire, we will do our best to make arrangements to permit concurrent travel. We would be overly-optimistic and guilty of misrepresentation if we indicated we could help out in every case, but we'll do what we can.

3. As soon as possible we will send descriptions of typical [ ] transient billets and approximate prices. This might be useful in showing people what is involved.

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4. I recommend that you propose to all, with the exception perhaps of childless couples, that the sponsor come alone and make his own arrangements. In the case of larger families, four dependents (including wife) and up, I believe it is almost essential.

5. As to the procedure to be followed in [ ] case, I suggest the following:

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a. Discuss foregoing with subject, particularly para 4 above.

b. If he still wants concurrent travel, advise and we will get reservations which are not difficult to secure on receipt of a firm arrival date [ ] We will then cable confirmation.

c. Presumably CFB will process dependents up to releasing time without confirmation from us. This is important since if we make reservations and the holders are several days late in arriving (or do not show), we are still required to pay for the days we had reserved whether the rooms are used or not. Therefore, we prefer to have firm departure date prior to making the reservations.

6. As to whether the above procedure is good for all cases, I do not know. I prefer to refer this to [ ] who handles these things, but who has recently been at home sick. Therefore, I suggest that each case be worked out in terms of its own problems until some general scheme can be established.

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7. I regret having to present such a grim picture, but I can see considerable disillusionment, needless family problems and other unfortunate results unless all concerned know exactly what the situation is and willingly accept the risk. I suggest pertinent excerpts from this be made required reading for all [ ] processes.

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